THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The decision to join the M. I. G. A. has not taken under any pressure from any external agency.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

Decline in handloom exports due to new Forex scheme

@4333-A. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attentinon of Government has been drawn to press news-item captioned "New forex scheme hits exporters" which appeared in the 'Economic Times' of the 27th April, 1992;

(b) if so, whether the handloom exporters at large have been affected due to new forex scheme of the Government; and

(c) what steps Government propose to contemplate to liberalise the new exchange rate management system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the press report referred to in part (a) the "handloom exporters were quite happy with the new partial convertibility of the rupee scheme", and "the scheme is better than the previous exim scrip entitlement arrangement". The transitional problem referred to in the press report have been attended to by the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

@Previously Unstarred Question 4127, transferred from the 17th August, 1992.

Effects of imports of petroleum and oil lubricants

@@4333-B. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country is likely to face a crisis in balance of payment position in mid-nineties due to heavy imports of petroleum and oil lubricants;

(b) whether Government have finalised a package to deal with such a situation; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Rates of electric charge from M.P's.

4334. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the charge for electricity consumption from the Members of Parliament permanently residing in Western Court Hostel is Rs. 3/- per unit;

(b) if so, why; and

(c) whether Government will take quick steps to do away with this disparity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c) The Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

@@Previously Unstarred Question 4494, transferred from the 19th August, 1992.